Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 6A, section 16 and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, a remote public hearing will be held on December 9, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. relative to the adoption of

101 CMR 31.00: Administration and Enforcement of the Loan Repayment Assistance Program

The proposed adoption of 101 CMR 31.00: Administration and Enforcement of the Loan Repayment Assistance Program will implement standards and requirements relating to the administration and enforcement of the loan repayment assistance program for health and human service workers in the Commonwealth. The proposed rule will also allow EOHHS to employ one or more contractors to administer the program. It also sets processes for suspending or waiving service requirements and enforcing repayment if service requirements are breached.

The regulatory changes are proposed to go into effect no sooner than March 3, 2023. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

If you would like to testify at the hearing, please register online at hearings. To join the hearing online, go directly to EHS Public Hearings Meeting Room. Alternatively, go to https://zoom.us/join and enter meeting ID 935 397 8200 and passcode 800606. To join the hearing by phone, call (646) 558-8656 and enter meeting ID 935 397 8200# when prompted.

You may also submit written testimony instead of, or in addition to, live testimony. To submit written testimony, please email your testimony to ehs-regulations@mass.gov as an attached Word or PDF document or as text within the body of the email with the name of the regulation in the subject line. All written testimony must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit testimony by email should mail written testimony to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written testimony must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on December 9, 2022. EOHHS specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the emergency regulations, go to www.mass.gov/service-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings or request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

Special accommodation requests may be directed to the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman by email at ADAAccommodations@state.ma.us or by phone at (617) 847-3468 (TTY: (617) 847-3788 for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled). Please allow two weeks to schedule sign language interpreters.

EOHHS may adopt a final, revised version of the emergency regulation taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHealth website at www.mass.gov/service-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings.

November 18, 2022